

SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Friedrich Kueffner on September 11, 2008 and updated on October 22, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows: claim 20 has been amended to delete everything after "Door" in line 1 and replace it with:

--, comprising

a leaf, which can be moved between an open position and a closed position;
a guide element (40), which is fastened to the leaf and which cooperates with a guide rail (20) to guide the movement of the leaf; and

a locking device (50), which can be shifted between a release position, in which it allows the movement of the leaf, and a blocking position, in which it opposes the movement of the leaf, the locking device being equipped with a locking element (70), which, when the device is moved into the locking position, comes to rest against a contact surface (25) of the guide rail (20), in which,

when in the locking position, the locking element (70) can be pressed toward the contact surface (25) by a thrust element, which is attached to the door leaf, with a pretensioning device (901, which pushes the locking element (70) into the

locking position, such that the locking element, when in the locking position, is located between the thrust element and the guide rail, wherein

the locking device (50) is connected by a tensioning means (100) to a drive device and/or to a counterbalancing device realized in the form of a tension or torsion spring arrangement in such a way that the drive device and/or the counterbalancing device can exert a force on it which opposes the pretensioning force of the pretensioning device (90) and pushes the locking device into the release position; and

the locking device (50) has a lever (60), supported so that it can pivot around an axis which is essentially transverse, to the longitudinal direction of the guide rail (20), which lever can be connected on one side of the pivot axis (43) to the tensioning means (100) and on the other side of the pivot axis (43) to the locking element (70),

wherein the locking element (70) is mounted on the lever (60) so that it can tilt around a tilt axis which is essentially parallel to the pivot axis (43),

wherein, when the locking device (50) is shifted into the locking position, the locking element (70) can be laid against the guide element (40),

wherein the locking element (40) has a first, essentially flat contact surface (76), which comes to rest against the contact surface (25) when the device is in the locking position, and a second contact surface (78), which, in the locking position, rests against the guide element (40), where the first contact surface (76) forms an acute angle of less than 30°, with the second contact surface (78).--

Claims 21 and 22 have been cancelled.

Claim 36 has been changed to depend from claim 20 instead of claim 22.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the contact of the locking element with the guide element and the guide rail is not anticipated by or rendered obvious by the prior art.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CATHERINE A. KELLY whose telephone number is (571)270-3660. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8am - 4:30pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Katherine Mitchell can be reached on 571-272-7069. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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